

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing Amendment and following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-61 are pending in this application. Claims 9-29 and 37-61 have been withdrawn from consideration. Of the remaining claims for consideration (i.e., claims 1-8 and 30-36), claims 1 and 30 are independent.

By this Amendment, independent claims 1 and 30 are amended. Dependent claims 2 and 4-8 are also amended. No new matter has been added by this Amendment.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

In paragraph one (1) of the Office Action, claims 30-32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,774,565 to Freeman (“Freeman”). In paragraph four (4) of the Office Action, claims 30, 33 and 34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,697,110 to Jaspers et al. (“Jaspers”).

In paragraph seven (7) of the Office Action, claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Freeman in view of Applicant’s conceded prior art. In paragraph fifteen (15) of the Office Action, claims 33-36 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Freeman. In paragraph nineteen (19) of the Office Action, claims 1 and 4-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jaspers in view of Applicant’s conceded prior art. Finally, in paragraph twenty-five (25) of the Office Action, claim 35 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jaspers.

The amended claim 1 is directed to an image sensing apparatus comprising: an image sensing device; an A/D conversion unit configured to convert an analogue image signal outputted by said image sensing device into a digital signal; a color interpolation unit configured to perform color interpolation on the digital signal converted by the A/D conversion unit and generating image data on a plurality of color planes; a color space conversion unit configured to convert a color space of the plurality of color planes to a color space of another colormetric system; a pseudo color removing unit configured to reduce a color component generated by the color interpolation unit, by controlling a color difference signal converted by said color space conversion unit, so that pseudo color components of the image data is reduced, and a compression unit (compression circuit 16 in Fig. 1) configured to compress the image data in which the pseudo color components are reduced by the pseudo color removing unit.

Freeman discloses a linear interpolation (sample and hold circuits 12, 14 and 16) of an image signal and median filters 32 and 34 for removing color fringe artifacts of difference signal values Y-G and C-G, respectively. Freeman then reconstructs each pixel into three signal values from the two different signal values and the original signal values so as to reproduce an original image scene.

Jaspers discloses a color sample interpolation for interpolating a color sample in a signal having alternate colored samples, and further discloses a false color detector PROC' and a false color killer (FCK) in Figs. 8 and 9A. In Fig. 9A, the RGB color signals are converted into Y, U and V signals.

The purpose of Jaspers is to interpolate a color sample at furnishing a high color signal resolution, and the aim of Freeman is to reconstruct an original image scene in high quality.

Therefore, neither Freeman nor Jaspers teaches or suggests to compress an image signal after pseudo color components of the image signal are reduced.

Accordingly, neither Freeman nor Jaspers teaches or suggests the compression unit (step) of compressing image data whose pseudo color components are reduced. Thus, independent claims 1 and 30, as amended, are believed to be distinguishable over the cited art.

Applicant has not individually addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because the independent claims from which they respectively depend are in condition for allowance as set forth above. Applicant however reserves the right to address such rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary.

Applicant believes that the application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

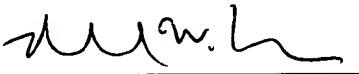
AUTHORIZATION

No petitions or additional fees are believed due for this amendment and/or any accompanying submissions. However, to the extent that any additional fees and/or petition is required, including a petition for extension of time, Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner to grant such petition, and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees, including any fees that may be required for such petition, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-4607). A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: May 27, 2004

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